ARTICLES TO BE ENQVIRED OF WITHIN THE DIOCESSE of Couentry and Lichfield, in the Trienniall Visitation of the Right Reuerend *Father in God*, THOMAS, *by the prouidence of God, Lord Bishop of Couentry and Lichfield.*

Holden in the eighteenth yeere of the Raigne of our most gracious Soueraigne Lord, IAMES, by the grace of God, King of Great Britaine, France, and Ireland, defender of the Faith; and of Scotland the foure and fiftieth. In the yeere of our Lord God, 1620.

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The Tenor of the Oath, to be minifired

to the Church-wardens and Side-men.

YOu ſhall ſweare, that you, and euery of you, ſhall duly conſider, and diligently enquire, of all and euery of theſe Articles giuen you in charge; and that all affection, fauour, hatred, hope of reward and gaine, or feare of diſpleaſure, or malice ſet aſide; you ſhall preſent all and euery ſuch perſon, of, or within your Pariſh, as hath committed any offence, or made any default mentioned in theſe, or any of theſe Articles; or which are vehemently ſuſpected or defamed of any ſuch offence or default: Wherein you ſhall deale vprightly and fully; neither preſenting, nor ſparing to preſent any, contrary to truth: hauing in this action God before your eyes, with an earneſt zeale to maintaine truth, and to ſuppreſſe vice. So helpe you God, and the holy Contents of this booke.

I. Concerning the Miniſters.

IN primis, Whether doth your Miniſter diſtinctly and reuerently ſay Diuine ſeruice vpon Sundayes and Holidayes, and other dayes appointed to be obſerued by the booke of Common Prayer: as Wedneſdayes and Fridayes, and the Eeues of euery Sunday and Holiday, at fit and vſuall times? And doth your Miniſter duly obſerue the Order, Rites, and Ceremonies, preſcribed in the ſaid Booke of Common Prayer, as well in reading publike prayers and the Letany, as alſo in adminiſtring the Sacraments, ſolemnization of Matrimony, Viſiting the ſicke, Burying the dead, Churching of women, and all other like Rites and Offices of the Church, in ſuch manner and forme as in the ſaid Booke of Common Prayer he is enioyned? And doth he reade the Booke of the laſt Canons once yeerly, and weare a Surplice according to the ſaid Canons?

2 Item, whether doth your Miniſter bid Holidayes and Faſting dayes, as by the Booke of Common Prayer is appointed? And doth he giue warning beforehand to the Pariſhioners, for the receiuing of the holy Communion, as the 22. Canon requireth? And whether hee doth adminiſter the holy Communion ſo often, and at ſuch times, as that euery Pariſhioner may receiue the ſame at the leaſt thrice in euery yeere: whereof once at Eaſter, as by the Book of Common Prayer is appointed? And doth your Miniſter receiue the ſame himſelfe on euery day that he adminiſtreth it to others, and vſe the words of Inſtitution according to the Booke, at euery time that the Bread and Wine is renewed, accordingly as by the prouiſo of the 21. Canon is directed? And doth he deliuer the Bread and Wine to euery Communicant ſeuerally? Whether hath he admitted to the holy Communion any offender or Schiſmaticke, contrary to the 26. and 27. conſtitutions, or receiued any to the Communion being not of his owne Cure, or put any from the Communion, who are not publikely infa-

mous for any notorious crime? Doth he vse the signe of the Crosse in Baptisme, or baptize in any Bason, or other vessell, and not in the vsuall Font: or admit any Father to be Godfather to his owne child, or such which haue not receiued the holy Communion, or baptize any children that were not borne in the Parish, or wilfully refuse to baptize any Infant in his Parish being in danger, hauing been enformed of the weakenesse of the said child: and whether hath the child died through his default without Baptisme?

3 Item, whether hath your Minister married any without a Ring, or without Banes published three seuerall Sundayes or Holidayes in time of Diuine Seruice, in the seuerall Churches or Chappels of their seuerall abode, according to the Booke of Common Prayer, or in times prohibited, albeit the Banes were thrice published, without a License or dispensation from the Archbishop, the Bishop of the Diocesse, or his Chancellour, first obtained in that behalfe? or not betwixt the houres of eight and twelue in the forenoone, or married any in any priuate house: or if the parties be vnder the age of 21. yeeres, before their parents or gouernours haue signified their consent vnto him.

4 Item, whether doth he refuse to bury any, which ought to be interred in Christian buriall, or deferre the same longer then he should, or bury any in Christian burial, which by the constitutions of the Church of England ought not to be so interred?

5 Item, whether is your Minister a Preacher allowed? If so, then by whom? If not, whether doth he procure some who are lawfully licensed, to preach amongst you monethly at the least?

6 Item, whether doth your Minister (being licensed) preach vsually according to the Canons, either in his owne Cure, or in some other Church or Chappell, neere adioyning, where no Preacher is, and how often he hath been negligent in that behalfe, and doth hee preach standing, and with his hat off? Or whether doth he or his Curate vpon euery Sunday, when there is no Sermon, reade an Homily, or some part thereof, according as he ought to doe: or in case he be not licensed to preach, doth he take vpon him to preach or expound the Scriptures in his owne Cure, or elsewhere? If so, then you are to present the same, the time and place, when, and where he did it.

7 Item, whether doth your Minister in his Sermons, Lectures, and other exercises, vse to pray for the Kings Maiesty, King Iames, and for the Prince, and all the Royall Progeny, with addition of such stile

and

and Titles as are due to his Highnesse, and exhort the people to obedience to his Maiestie, and all Magistrates in authoritie vnder him; not omitting particular mention of the Bishop of the Dioces, according to his Maiesties late direction in that behalfe?

8 Item, whether is your Minister continually resident vpon his Benefice, and how long time hath he been absent, and in case he be licensed to be absent, whether doth he cause his Cure to be sufficiently supplied, according to the Canons: or in case he hath another Benefice, whether doth hee supply his absence by a Curate sufficiently licensed to preach in that Cure where he himselfe is not resident?: Or otherwise, in case the smalnesse of the liuing cannot finde a preaching Minister, doth he preach at both his Benefices vsually?

9 Item, whether doth your Minister or Curate serue any more Cures then one: if so, then what other Cure doth he serue, and how farre are they distant?

10 Item, whether doth your Minister euery Sunday and Holiday, before Euening Prayer, for halfe an houre, or more, examine and instruct the youth and ignorant persons of his Parish, in the Tenne Commandements, Articles of the Beliefe, and in the Lords Prayer, and the Sacraments, according as it is prescribed in the Catechisme, set foorth in the Booke of Common Prayer?

11 Item, whether doth your Minister in the Rogation dayes, goe in perambulation of the circuit of the Parish, saying and vsing the Prayers, and Thanksgiuing to God, appointed by law, according to his dutie, thanking God for his blessings, if there be plenty on the earth: Or otherwise, to pray for his grace and fauour, if there be a feare of scarcity?

12 Item, whether hath your Minister admitted any woman, begotten with childe in adultery or fornication, to be churched without license of the Ordinary?

13 Item, whether hath your Minister, or any other Preacher, baptized children, churched any woman, or ministred the holy Communion in any priuate house, otherwise then by Law is allowed?

14 Item, whether doth your Minister, being a Preacher, endeuour and labour diligently to reclaime the Popish Recusants in his Parish frō their errors (if there be any such abiding in your Parish?) Or whether is your Parson, Vicar or Curate, ouercōuersant with, or a fauourer of Recusants, whereby he is suspected not to be sincere in Religion?

15 Item,

15 Item, whether hath your Minister taken vpon him, to appoint any publike or priuate Feasts, Prophecies or exercises, not approued by Law, or publike authoritie, or hath vsed to meete in any priuate house or place, with any person or persons, there to consult how to impeach or depraue the Booke of Common Prayer, or the Doctrine or Discipline of the Church of England? If so, then you shall present them all.

16 Item, whether hath your Minister staied the publication of any excommunications or [illegible]: or doth he euery halfe yeere denounce in his parish Church all such of his parish as are excommunicated, and persuere therein without seeking to be absolued, or doth he wittingly and willingly keepe company with such as are excommunicate: And hath he admitted into your Church any person excommunicate, without a Certificate of his absolution from the Ordinary, or other competent Iudge?

17 Item, whether doth your Minister carefully looke to the relicfe of the poore, and from time to time call vpon his Parishioners to giue somewhat, as they can spare, to godly and charitable vses, especially when they make their Testaments?

18 Item, whether doth your Minister, or any hauing taken holy Orders, being now silenced or suspended, or any other person of your knowledge, or as you haue heard, hold any Conuenticles, or preach in any place, or vse any other forme of Diuine Seruice then is appointed in the Booke of Common Prayer? If so, then you are to present their names, and with whom.

19 Item, whether is your Curate licensed to serue, by the Bishop of this Diocesse, or by any other, and by whom?

20 Item, whether doth your Minister vse such decencie and comelinesse in his apparell, as by the 47. Canon is enioyned: and is he of sober behauiour, and one that doth not vse such bodily labour, as is not seemely for his function and calling?

21 Item, whether is your Minister noted or defamed, to haue obtained his Benefice or his Orders, by Symony, or any other way defamed, to be a Symoniacal person, or any way noted to be a Schismaticke, or Schismatically affected, or reputed to be an incontinent person, or to table or lodge any such in his house: or is he a frequenter of Tauernes, Innes, or Ale-houses, or any place suspected for ill rule: or is he a common Drunkard, a commõ Gamester, or player at Dice,

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a Swearer, or one that applieth himselfe not at his studye, or is otherwise offensiue and scandalous to his function or Ministry?

22 Item, whether doth your Preacher or Lecturer reade diuine Seruice, and minister the Sacraments twice a yeere at least in his owne person, according to the Canons?

II. Concerning the Church, the Ornaments thereof, and the Churches possessions.

23 Whether haue you in your seuerall Churches and Chappels, the whole Bible of the largest volume, and the Booke of Common Prayer, lately set foorth by his Maiesties authoritie, both fairely and substantially bound: a Font of Stone, set vp in the ancient vsuall place: a conuenient and decent Communion Table, with a Carpet of silke, or some other decent stuffe, continually laid vpon the Table at time of diuine Seruice, and a faire linnen cloth vpon the same, at the time of the receiuing of the holy Communion? And whether is the same Table placed in such conuenient sort within the Chancell or Church, as that the Minister may be best heard in his Prayer and administration, and that the greatest number may communicate? And whether is it so vsed out of time of diuine Seruice, as is not agreeable to the holy vse of it: as by sitting on it, and by throwing hats on it, writing on it, or is it abused to other prophaner vses? and are the Tenne Commandements set vpon the East end of your Church or Chappell, where the people may best see and reade them, and other Sentences of holy Scripture, written on the walles likewise for that purpose?

24 Item, whether haue you in your said Church or Chappell, a conuenient seate for your Minister to reade Seruice in, together with a comely Pulpit set vp in a conuenient place, with a decent cloth or Cushion for the same, a comely large Surplice, a faire Communion Cup, with a couer of siluer, a flagon of siluer Tinne, or pewter, to put the wine in, whereby it may be set vpon the Communion Table, at the time of the ministring thereof: with all other things and Ornaments necessary for the celebration of diuine Seruice, and administration of the Sacraments? And whether haue you a strong Chest for almes for the poore, with three locks and keyes, and another chest for keeping the Bookes, and Ornaments of the Church, and the Register Booke?

Booke? And whether haue you a Regiſter Booke in Parchment, for Chriſtnings, Weddings, and Burials, and whether the ſame be kept in all points, according to the Canons in that behalfe prouided? And whether haue you in your ſaid Church or Chancell a Table ſet, of the degrees wherein by Law men are prohibited to marry?

25 Item, whether are your Church and Chappels, with the Chancels thereof, and your Parſonage or Vicarage houſe, your Pariſh Almes-houſe and Church-houſe, in good reparations: and are they imployed to godly, and their right holy vſes? Is your Church, Chancell and Chappell, decently and comely kept, as well within as without, and the ſeates well maintained, according to the 85. Canon in that behalfe prouided? Whether your Church-yard be well fenced, and kept without abuſe: and if not, in whoſe default the ſame is, and what the defect or fault is? And whether any perſon haue incroched vpon the ground of the Church-yard, or whether any perſon or perſons haue vſed any thing or place conſecrated to holy vſe, prophanely or wickedly?

26 Item, whether haue you the Terrier of all the Gleabe lands, Medowes, Gardens, Orchards, Houſes, Stocks, Implements, Tenements, and portions of Tithes (whether within your Pariſh or without) belonging vnto your Parſonage or Vicarage, taken by the view of honeſt men in your ſaid Pariſh? And whether the ſaid Terrier be laid vp in the Biſhops Regiſtry, and in whoſe hands any of them are now? And if you haue no Terrier already made in parchment, you the Church-wardens and Side-men, together with your Parſon or Vicar, or in his abſence, with your Miniſter, are to make diligent inquiry and preſentment of the premiſes, and make, ſubſcribe, and ſigne the ſaid Terrier, as aforeſaid.

III. Schoole-maſters.

27 Whether doth any in your Pariſh take vpon him to teach Schoole, without license of the Ordinary, and is he conformable to the Religion now eſtabliſhed? And doth hee bring his Schollers to the Church to heare diuine Seruice and Sermons? And doth he inſtruct his Schollers in the grounds of the Religion now eſtabliſhed in this Church of England? and is hee carefull and diligent to benefit his Schollers in learning?

IIII. Pariſh Clerkes, and Sextons.

28 WHether haue you a fit Pariſh Clerk, aged twenty yeeres at leaſt, of honeſt conuerſation, able to reade and write? Whether are his and the Sextons wages paid without fraud, according to the ancient cuſtome of your Pariſh: if not, then by whom are they ſo defrauded or denied? By whom are they choſen? and whether the ſaid Clerke be approued by the Ordinary: and hath he taken an Oath, as in ſuch caſes is fit and required: and is he diligent in his Office, and ſeruiceable to the Miniſter, and doth he take vpon him to meddle with any thing aboue his Office: as Churching of women, burying the dead, or ſuch like?

29 Item, whether doth your Clerke or Sexton keepe the Church cleane, the doores locked? Is any thing loſt or ſpoyled in the Church through his default? doth he ſuffer any vnreaſonable ringing, or any prophane exerciſe in your Church: or doth hee (when any is paſſing out of this life) neglect to tole a Bell, hauing notice thereof?

V. Phyſicions, Surgeons, and Mid-wiues.

30 HOw many Phyſicions, Chirurgions, or Mid-wiues haue you in your Pariſh? How long haue they vſed their ſeuerall Sciences or Offices, and by what authority? And how haue they demeaned themſelues therein, and of what ſkill are they accounted to be in their profeſſion?

31 Item, whether doe any perſons adminiſter the goods of the dead without lawfull authoritie, or ſuppreſſe the laſt will of the dead? Or are there in your Pariſh any Wills not yet proued, or goods of the dead dying inteſtate left vnadminiſtred? By authoritie in that behalfe you ſhall not faile to preſent the Executors, and all others faulty therein: and alſo how many perſons being poſſeſſed of any goods & chattels, haue dyed within your Pariſh, ſince the yeere 1617.

32 Item, whether doth any with-hold the ſtock of the Church, or any goods or other things, giuen to good and charitable vſes?

33 Item, whether are your Hoſpitals and Almes-houſes, and other ſuch houſes and Corporations, founded to good and charitable vſes: and the lands, poſſeſſions and goods of the ſame, ordered and

disposed of as they should be? And doe the Masters, Gouernours, Fellowes, and others of the said Houses and Corporations, behaue and demeane themselues, according to the godly Ordinances and Statutes of their seuerall Foundations?

34 Item, whether haue you any in your Parish to your knowledge, or by common fame or report, which haue committed Adultery, Fornication, or Incest, or any which haue impudently bragged or boasted, that he or she haue liued incontinently with any person or persons whatsoeuer: or any that hath attempted the chastitie of any woman, or solicited any woman to haue the carnall knowledge of her body, or which are commonly reputed to be common Drunkards, blasphemers of Gods holy Name, common Swearers, common Slanderers of their Neighbours, and sowers of discord, filthy and lasciuious talkers, Usurers, Symoniacall persons, Bawdes, or harbourers of women with childe, which be vnmarried, or conueying or suffering them to goe away before they haue made satisfaction to the congregation, or any that hauing heretofore been presented, or suspected of any the aforesaid crimes, haue for that cause departed your Parish, and are now returned againe? Or any which haue vsed any inchantments, sorceries, incantations or witchcrafts, which are not made felony by the statutes of this Realme, or any which haue committed any periury in any Ecclesiasticall Court, in an Ecclesiasticall cause, or which haue committed any forgery, punishable by the Ecclesiasticall lawes, and the procurers and abettors of the said offences? You shall truly present the names of all and singuler the said offendors, and with whom they haue committed the said offences, in case they haue not bin publikely punished to your knowledge for the same crimes.

VI. Touching the Church-wardens and Side-men.

35 Whether you and the Church-wardens, Quest-men, or Side-men from time to time, doe, and haue done their diligẽces, in not suffering any idle person to abide either in the Churchyard, or Church-porch, in Seruice or Sermon time, but causing thẽ either to come into the Church to heare diuine Seruice, or to depart, and not disturbe such as be hearers there? And whether haue they, and doe you diligently see the parishioners duly resort to the Church euery Sunday and Holiday, and there to remaine during diuine Seruice

and

and Sermon? And whether you or your predeceſſors, Church-wardens there, ſuffer any Playes, Feaſts, Drinkings, or any other prophane vſages, to be kept in your Church, Chappell, or Church-yards, or haue ſuffered to your and their vttermoſt power and endeuour, any perſon or perſons to be tippling or drinking in any Inne or Victualing houſe in your Pariſh, during the time of diuine Seruice or Sermon, on Sundaies and Holidaies?

36 Item, whether and how often haue you admitted any to preach within your Church or Chappell, which was not ſufficiently licenſed? And whether you, together with your Miniſter, haue not taken diligent heed and care, that euery of your pariſhioners being of ſixteene yeeres of age or vpwards, haue receiued thrice euery yeere, as aforeſaid: and alſo that no ſtranger haue vſually come to your Church, from their owne Pariſh Church?

37 Item, whether haue there been prouided againſt euery Communion, a ſufficient quantitie of fine white bread, and of good and wholeſome wine for the Communicants that ſhall receiue? And whether that wine be brought in a cleane and ſweete ſtanding pot of pewter, or of other purer metall?

38 Item, whether were you choſen by the conſent of the Miniſter and the pariſhioners? And haue the late Church-wardens giuen vp a iuſt account for their time, and deliuered to their Succeſſors the money, and other things belonging to the Church, which was in their hands? And are the Almes of the Church faithfully diſtributed to the vſe of the poore?

VII. Concerning the Pariſhioners.

39 WHether is there any of your Pariſhioners, being ſixteene yeeres of age, or vpwards, or others lodging or commonly reſorting to any houſe within your Pariſh, that doe wilfully abſent themſelues from your Pariſh-church vpon Sundaies or Holidaies, at Morning and Euening Prayers: or who come late to Church, and depart from Church before Seruice be done vpon the ſaid dayes? Or who doe not reuerently behaue themſelues during the time of diuine Seruice, deuoutly kneeling, when the generall Confeſſion of ſins, the Letany, the ten Commandements, and all prayers & Collects are read, and vſing all due and lowly reuerence, when the bleſſed

Name of the Lord Iesus Christ is mentioned, and standing by when the Articles of the Beliefe are read, or who doe cover their heads in the Church during the time of diuine Seruice, vnlesse it be in case of necessitie, in which case they may weare a Night-cap, or Coyfe? Or who doe giue themselues to babbling, talking, or walking, and are not attentiue to the Word preached, or read: or reading, or praying, during the time afore-said? Whether any of your parish being of sixteene yeeres of age or vpwards, doe not receiue the holy Communion in your Church thrice euery yeere: whereof once at Easter, and whether they doe not deuoutly kneele at the receiuing thereof?

40 Item, whether any of your Parishioners, being admonished thereof, doe not send their Children, Seruants, and Apprentices, to the Minister, to be catechized vpon such Sundaies and Holidaies as are appointed? Or whether any of them doe refuse to come: or if they come, refuse to learne those instructions set foorth in the Booke of Common Prayer?

41 Item, whether any of your Parish doe entertaine within their house, any sojourner, common guests, or other persons, who refuse to frequent diuine Seruice, or receiue the holy Communion, as afore-said? Present their names, their qualities or conditions.

42 Item, what recusant Papists are there in their Parish? or haue dwelt or made vsuall abode there within the space of two or three yeeres last past, & whether they still dwell or remaine there, or where doe they dwell, or make their abode? Present their names, qualities, or conditions. And whether keepe they any Schoole-master in their house, which commeth not to Church to heare diuine Seruice and receiue the Communion? What is his name, and how long hath hee taught there, or elsewhere?

43 Item, whether doe any of the said Popish Recusants labour to seduce and with-draw others from the Religion now established? or instruct their Families or children in Popish religion? or refuse to entertaine any, especially in place of greatest seruice, or trust, but such as concurre with them in their Papistry?

44 Item, how long haue the said Popish Recusants abstained from diuine Seruice, or from the Communion, as afore-said?

45 Item, whether is there any in your Parish that retaine vndefaced, or sell, vtter, or disperse any Popish Bookes or Writings, or other Bookes, Libels, or writings of any Sectaries, touching the

Religion,

Religion, State, or Gouernment Ecclesiasticall of this Kingdome of England or keepe any Ornaments of superstition vncancelled or vndefaced?

46 Item, whether haue you any in your Parish, which heretofore being Popish Recusants or Sectaries, haue since reformed themselues, and come to Church to heare Diuine Seruice, and receiue the Sacraments? If yea, then who they are: and how long since haue they so reformed themselues? And whether they still remaine and abide in that conformity?

47 Item, whether is there any in your Parish that refuse to haue their children baptized, or themselues to receiue the Communion at the hands of your Minister, taking exception against him, and what causes or exceptions doe they alleage? Or haue any married wiues refused to come to Church according to the Booke of common Prayer, to giue God thanks after their Child-birth, for their safe deliuerance? And whether doe any of, or in your Parish, refuse to haue their children baptized in your parish Church, according to the forme prescribed in the Booke of common Prayer.

48 Item, whether any of your Parish hauing a Preacher to their Parson, Uicar, or Curate, doe absent themselues from his Sermons, and resort to other places to heare other Preachers: or whether any of your parish doe communicate or baptize their children in any other parish?

49 Item, what persons within your parish, for any offence, contumacy, or crime, of Ecclesiasticall conusance, doe stand excommunicate? Present their names, and for what cause they are excommunicated, and how long they haue so stood, and what person or persons doe wittingly and vsually keepe them company.

50 Item, whether doe any, not being in orders, execute any priestly or ministeriall office in your Church, Chappell, or Church-yard, and what be their names?

51 Item, whether is there any in your parish, that hauing heretofore taken vpon him the order of Priesthood or Deacon, hath since relinquished the same, and liues a Lay-man, neglecting his vocation?

52 Item, whether hath any person or persons in your Parish quarrelled, or stricken, or vsed any violence to your Minister, or hath strucke or quarreld with any other person within your Church or Churchyard, or demeaned himselfe disorderly in the Church, by filthy or pro-

phane talke, or any other lewd or immodest behauiour? Or haue disturbed the Minister in time of Diuine Seruice or Sermon, or haue libelled or spoken slanderous words against your Minister, to the scandall of his vocation: or defamed any of his neighbours touching any crime of Ecclesiasticall conusance?

53 Item, Whether haue any of or in your Parish, without consent of the Ordinary, or other lawfull authority, caused any to doe penance, or to be censured or punished for any matter of Ecclesiasticall conusance, by any Vestry-meetings, or otherwise by their owne authority? Or haue taken any money or commutation for the same? Present their names that haue done it, and who haue been so punished: in what maner, and vpon what cause.

54 Item, whether any person in your Parish do exercise any trade or labour, buy or sell, or keepe open shops or ware houses vpon any Sunday or Holiday by themselues, their seruants or apprentices, or haue otherwise prophaned the said dayes, contrary to the orders of the Church of England? And whether there be any Inne-keepers, Alehousekeepers, Victualers, or other persons, that permit any persons in their houses to eate, drink, or play, during the time of Diuine Seruice, or Sermon, or reading the Homilies in the fore-noone, or afternoone, vpon these dayes?

55 Item, whether hath the xxth day of August, and the fifth day of November bin kept holy, and thanksgiuing made to God, for his Maiesties and this States happy deliuerance, according to the Ordinance in that behalfe?

56 Item, whether doth any of your Parish hold or frequent any conuenticles or priuate Congregations, or make or maintaine any constitutions, agreed vpon in any such assemblies? Or are there any that doe write, or publikely or priuately speake against the Booke of Common Prayer, or any thing therein contained, or against any of the Articles of Religion, agreed vpon in Anno 1562. or against the Kings Supremacy in causes Ecclesiasticall, or against the Oath of Supremacy, or of Allegiance, as pretending the same to be vnlawful, and not warrantable by the Word of God? Or against any of the Rites or Ceremonies of the Church of England now established? Or against the gouernment of the Church of England, vnder the Kings most excellent Maiesty, by Archbishops, Bishops, Deanes, Archdeacons, & other Officers of the same: affirming, that the same is

repugnant

repugnant to the Word of God, and that the said Ecclesiasticall Officers are not lawfully ordained? Or whether be there any Authours, maintainers, or fauourers of Heresie or Schisme, or that be suspected to be Anabaptists, Libertines, Brownists, of the Family of Loue, or of any other Heresie or Schisme: present their names.

57 Item, whether haue any in your Parish married within the degrees by Law prohibited: or any couple in your parish being lawfully married, liue apart one from the other, without due separation of the Law: or any that haue been diuorced, which keepe company with any other at Bed or at Board, and when and where were they married?

VIII. Concerning Ecclesiasticall Magistrates and Officers.

58 WHether doe you know or haue heard of any payment, composition, or agreement, to, or with any Ecclesiasticall Magistrate, Iudge, or Officer, for winking at, or sparing to punish any person for any offence of Ecclesiastical conusance, or for suppressing, or concealing of any Recusant, or any other offendour in the cases aforesaid? What sum of money, or other consideration hath bin receiued or promised, by or to any of them in ỳ respect, by whom, & with whom?

59 Item, whether hath any person within your Parish, paid, or promised any summe of money or other reward, for cõmutation of penance for any crime of Ecclesiasticall conusance? If so, then with whom, when, and for what, and how hath the same been imployed?

60 Item, whether are your Ecclesiasticall Iudges and their Substitutes, Masters of Arts, or Batchelours of the Lawes at the least, learned and practised in the Ciuill and Ecclesiasticall Lawes: Men of good life and fame, zealously affected in Religion, and iust and vpright in executing their offices? Haue they heard any matter of office priuately in their chambers, without their sworne Registers, or their Deputies presence?

61 Item, whether doe you know, or haue you heard, that any Ecclesiasticall Iudge, Officer, or Minister, hath receiued or taken any extraordinary fees, or other rewards or promises, by any wayes or meanes, directly or indirectly, of any person or persons whatsoeuer, either for ỳ granting of the administratiõ of the goods & chattels of those ỳ haue died intestate, to one before another, or for allotting of larger portions

portions of the goods and chattels of those that haue died intestate, to one more then to another: or for allowing large and vnreasonable accounts, made by Executors or Administrators: or for giuing them Quietus est, or discharges, without Inuentory or account, to defraud Creditors, Legataries, or those who are to haue portions? And what sums of money doe you know, or haue you heard, that any Ecclesiasticall Iudge or Officer hath taken, out of the state of any dying intestate, vpon pretence to bestow the same in pios vsus: and how haue the same been bestowed?

62 Item, whether hath any Ecclesiasticall Magistrate, Iudge, Officer, or any other, exercising Ecclesiasticall iurisdiction within this your Diocesse: or any Aduocate, Register, Proctor, Clerks, Apparators, or other Minister belonging to the same Ecclesiasticall Courts, exacted or taken by any wayes or meanes, directly, or indirectly, extraordinary or greater fees then are due and accustomed? And whether is there a Table for the rates of al fees set vp in their seueral Courts and Offices? And whether haue they sent or suffred any Processe to goe out of the Ecclesiasticall Courts otherwise than by Law they ought? or haue they taken vpon them the Office of Informers or Promoters to the said Courts, or any other way abused themselues in their Offices, contrary to the Law and Canons in that behalfe prouided?

63 Item, what number of Apparators haue euery seuerall Iudge Ecclesiasticall: and wherein, and in what manner is the Countrey ouerburthened by them: and wherein haue they caused or summoned any to appeare in the said Courts, without a presentment or Citation first had: or whether haue they threatned any to prosecute them in the said Courts, if they would not giue them some rewards, and what bribes in that behalfe haue they taken?

If you know of any other default or crime of Ecclesiasticall Conusance, you are to present the same by vertue of your Othes.

The Minister of euery Parish may, and ought to ioyne in presentment with the Churchwardens and Side-men: and if they will not present, the Minister may and ought himselfe present the defaults and crimes aforesaid: and there must be seuerall presentments made to euery seuerall Article: and the Minister, Churchwardens and Swornmen, are to meet and confer about the said presentments, and answering of euery of the aforesaid Articles.

FINIS.